

My name is Maritza Manrique and I am a Family Childcare Educator in East Boston City. I frequently talk with other educators around me and we have many concerns. Due to covid many of us are not making as much as we were prior to covid from our voucher pay families and private pay. We have lost many of our private pay children that have withdrawn because parents are either working from home and taking care of them or they are not receiving income to pay fees for our programs. With that loss of income we have also had to buy more supplies in accordance with the protocols for cleaning and safety. Supplies that run out quickly and are very expensive. Therefore we are making less and spending more to run our businesses. Another concern is what happens if we are to test positive and cannot work for more than two weeks. Agencies currently state they can only pay us for two weeks. This is a great concern for providers that are putting their health at risk to care for our children. Finally we are worried about the future of childcare. There is a lot at stake and we want security and protection so that we can continue to care for our children without worrying for our health, and financial security. We love being child care educators and can only hope we see a brighter future ahead.

Thanks,
Maritza Manrique